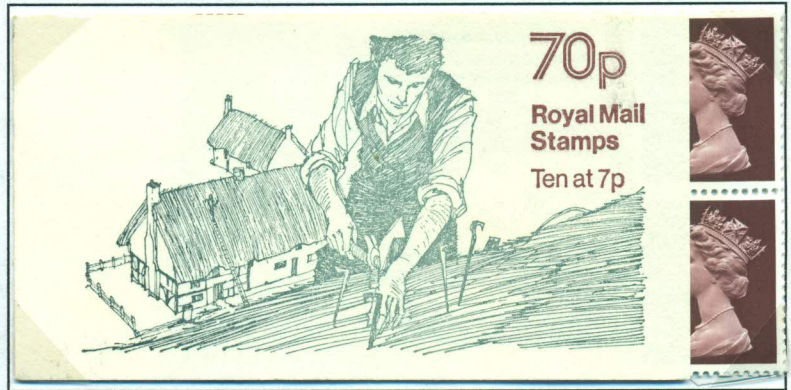


THE THATCHED ROOF

Paul Daems



Thatch has been used as roofing material for centuries, especially on steep roofs of 45 degrees and more. **Annual reeds** are used because perennial reeds do not weather and sometimes show algae. Good quality straw thatch can last for more than 50 years when **applied by a skilled thatcher**.

↑ Booklet with reed binder / reed cutter at work
Meter stamp as well as stamp show tools ↓



The thatch is **supported** by a rafter roof structure, on which round timber runs from the ridge to the lower end of the roof with horizontal reed battens. Material such as straw is **hammered** with twist irons or **screwed** by means of binding wire, has sufficient slope and is 28 tot 30 cm thick.



Postal stationery = illustrated postcard, sent 25.5.1924

Qualitative materials are dry, not spoiled and have a diameter of 5 to 8 mm. Thatch weights about 130 kg/m³, so that a roof of ± 30 cm weighs about 39 kg/m². With a thermal conductivity of 0,20 W/mK, reed of straw is a **good heat insulator**: warm in winter and cool in summer